

4-4-05

William Stokes, D.V.M.,

This letter is in response to your solicitation of public comment on the panel review and evaluation of alternatives to the Draize eye irritancy test.

I urge the ICCVAM/NICEATM to recommend that federal agencies immediately begin accepting the alternative methods found to be useful for assessing severe eye irritation and corrosion. In addition, please, have these agencies move forward with further improvements in these alternatives without delaying acceptance of the tests in their current forms. Finally, go beyond these current efforts by developing and validating nonanimal methods to completely replace the use of the Draize test.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Zuege



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